

Message Text

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 RSC-01 RSR-01 SS-15 FILE-01 SSO-00 CCO-00

ADP-00 CIAE-00 EUR-25 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 NSC-10 ACDA-19

DODE-00 EB-11 CU-04 COME-00 AEC-11 SCI-06 EA-11 IO-13

OMB-01 STR-08 /176 W
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P R 151020 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1745

INFO US MISSION NATO BRUSSELS 885

USIA WASHDC

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SECTO 45

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP NATO

SUBJ: BRAY BACKGROUNDER ON SECRETARY'S STATEMENT

FOR S/ PRS JOHN KING

STATE PLEASE PASS DOD

1. BRAY BACKGROUNDED APPROXIMATELY FORTY AMERICAN
AND EUROPEAN CORRESPONDENTS FOLLOWING SECRETARY'S STATEMENT
LATE
THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 14.

2. A) BRAY QUOTED ROGERS LEAD THAT " NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT TO
US THAN MAINTAINING ATLANTIC TIES. OUR PRIMARY INTEREST IN
NATO IS SELF- INTEREST," NOTING THIS ESPECIALLY VALID DURING
UNPRECEDENTED PERIOD OF DISCUSSION WITHIN AND OUTSIDE ALLIANCE.
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B) AT PRESIDENT'S REQUEST, SECRETARY BRIEFED ON UPCOMING BREZHNEV VISIT AND COMMENTED THAT WHILE THIS MEETING MIGHT NOT BE GROUND-BREAKING, IT WOULD STILL BE SIGNIFICANT. BRAY REFERRED TO PRESIDENT'S STATEMENTS OF WEDNESDAY EVENING ON ARMS REDUCTION AND INDICATED SECRETARY BRIEFED IN SOME DETAIL. WHILE AVOIDING SUBSTANCE OF FACT, BRAY NOTED BREZHNEV VISIT COULD AT A MINIMUM GIVE NEW IMPETUS TO THIS SET OF TALKS. ON DEEP BACKGROUND, BRAY SAID SOME BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WOULD BE SIGNED, CITING EXCHANGES, OCEANOGRAPHY, TRANSPORTATION, AND PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY AS POSSIBILITIES. BRAY SAID THAT, IN DEPARTURE FROM TEXT, SECRETARY STRESSED NO AGREEMENTS WOULD BE TAKEN WHICH WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO ALLIANCE. SECRETARY ALSO NOTED WE THOUGHT SOVIETS HAD GENERALLY ABIDED BY 12 PRINCIPLES AGREED TO AT MOSCOW LAST YEAR.

C) SECRETARY BRIEFLY REVIEWED MIDDLE EAST AND INDOCHINA BEFORE TURNING TO EUROPE WHICH WAS CHARACTERIZED AS "THE AREA WHICH MOST VITALLY CONCERNS US." SECRETARY "REJECTED" IDEA THAT TWO POWERS COULD IN ANY WAY RESOLVE ISSUES WHICH IMPINGE ON VITAL INTERESTS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. TURNING TO HELSINKI AND UPCOMING CSCE MINISTERIAL SET FOR JULY 3, SECRETARY INDICATED THAT IN OUR VIEW SOVIETS HAD DEMONSTRATED GREATER FLEXIBILITY THAN MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED. ON MBFR, SECRETARY MADE DETAILED PRESENTATION AND URGED THOSE ALLIES WHICH HAVE IDEAS TO ADVANCE TO DO SO CONCRETELY AND SOON SINCE TIME WAS RUNNING OUT. SECRETARY ALSO SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR TALKS TO BEGIN ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 30. WE HAVE TOLD SOVIETS IN STRONGEST TERMS THAT WE HAVE LIVED UP TO OUR PART OF THE AGREEMENT AND EXPECTED THEM TO LIVE UP TO THEIR OBLIGATIONS.

D) ON ADMIRAL POSNER'S INTELLIGENCE BRIEFING, SECRETARY EXPRESSED VIEW MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER FOR ALLIANCE TO MAINTAIN ITS STRENGTH; NOT BE UNDERMINED BY SPIRIT OF EUPHORIA, AND CITED CONTINUING REAL NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL THREATS. HE SAID YOU CANNOT NEGOTIATE FROM A POSITION OF WEAKNESS AND IT WAS PRESIDENT'S POLICY TO MAINTAIN STRENGTH OF ALLIANCE. AND HE ASSURED THAT IF ALLIES DID THEIR SHARE, WE WOULD MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE OUR FORCES.

E) ON BURDEN-SHARING, SECRETARY VOICED HOPE AND WELCOMED WILLINGNESS OF ALLIANCE TO EXAMINE PROBLEMS AND ESTABLISH BROADER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BASE.

F) SECRETARY CONCLUDED ON "IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY" FOR ALLIES TO LOOK AT ATLANTIC RELATIONSHIP. HE REFERRED TO WHAT THE PRESIDENT HAS DESCRIBED AS SIGNIFICANT CHANGES WHICH MAKE IT "IMPERATIVE"

FOR ALLIES TO BUILD NEW CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK. HE RECALLED PRESIDENT'S BELIEF TECHNICAL PROBLEMS SHOULD NOT BECOME SINGLE FOCUS OF ATTENTION AND EMPHASIZED PRESIDENT'S DETERMINATION NOT TO GET HUNG UP ON PROCEDURAL GROUNDS. IN SUM, SUBSTANCE WAS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE PROCESS. SECRETARY SAID US WAS "VERY FLEXIBLE" ON MATTERS OF PROCEDURE AND MORE THAN WILLING AND PREPARED TO MOVE AHEAD IN TERMS OF DEFINING OUR COMMON INTERESTS.

3. DURING Q AND A, FOLLOWING SUBJECTS WERE RAISED:

A) ATLANTIC RELATIONSHIP. BRAY SAID THAT AT THE MOMENT WE HAD NOT INITIATED DISCUSSION OR REQUEST FOR HAVING SPECIFIC STATEMENT IN COMMUNIQUE, BUT HE COULD NOT EXCLUDE THIS POSSIBILITY OVER NEXT TWENTY-FOUR HOURS. HE NOTED THAT ONE OTHER PARTY HAD SUGGESTED

A POSITIVE RESPONSE (I.E.; SYG LUNS). QUERIED ON THE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES REQUIRING NEW CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK, BRAY NOTED RADICAL CHANGE IN CIRCUMSTANCES SINCE ESTABLISHMENT OF NATO, GATT, AND IMF IN SECURITY, TRADE AND MONETARY FIELDS RESPECTIVELY. BRAY SAID TAKING ALL OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS TOGETHER, THIS SEEMS TO BE A USEFUL INTERVAL IN HISTORY TO LOOK AT WHERE WE ARE AND WHERE WE ARE GOING. HE SAID IT WAS DIFFICULT TO PROVIDE COMPLETE ANSWER SINCE IN MAJOR PART IT WILL DEPEND ON THE EUROPEAN RESPONSE. CERTAINLY, WE DID NOT INTEND OFFER "MADE IN AMERICA" BLUEPRINT.

B) CSCE/MBFR LINK IN COMMUNIQUE. BRAY SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT TO SECURE MBFR DATE AND WE HOPED TO DO SO AT THE SAME TIME AND TACTICALLY, WE DO NOT BELIEVE CSCE AND MBFR SHOULD BE LINKED IN COMMUNIQUE. THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION ON SOVIET POSITION RE MBFR TIMING. BRAY SAID IMPORTANT POINT WAS THAT THEIR ATTITUDE WAS DESIGNED TO EXTEND DATE BEYOND OCTOBER 30.

C) TROOP REDUCTIONS/BREZHNEV SUMMIT. BRAY SAID NEWSMEN COULD INTERPRET SECRETARY'S REMARKS AS DENIAL OF SPECULATION THAT TWO POWERS WOULD AGREE TO MAKE INITIAL TROOP REDUCTION DURING BREZHNEV VISIT.

ROGERS

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